

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 034239

15

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SAM-01 NEA-09 /032 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS JTRATNER:MDK

APPROVED BY S/PRS ROBERT FUNSETH

S/S -O: L. MATTESON

----- 025011

O 140232Z FEB 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 034239

TOSEC 256

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: COMBINED EVENING REPORT, FEBRUARY 13, 1975

FOR AMB. ANDERSON FROM S/PRS.

NO. 20

1. ABC-TV, HOWARD K. SMITH SAID HAK SWUNG THROUGH THREE COUNTRIES TODAY, CALLING HIS CAIRO STOP "POSITIVE" AND HIS TALKS WITH ASSAD "CONSTRUCTIVE". SMITH CONTINUED:"BUT A SENIOR OFFICIAL ON THE KISSINGER PLANE TOLD ABC'S TED KOPPEL THAT CHANCES FOR A NEW AGREEMENT ARE STILL NO BETTER THAN 50/50". (NO REPORT FROM KOPPEL USED.)

2. -CBS-RADIO FROM TEL AVIV, MARVIN KALB: KISSINGER BEGAN THIS JOURNEY BELIEVING THAT THE CHANCES FOR GETTING ANOTHER SINAI AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL WERE BETTER THAN 50/50. TONIGHT ON HIS RETURN TO ISRAEL HE CONVEYED AN IMPRESSION THAT THINGS WERE NOT GOING SO WELL. DURING TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS EARLIER THIS WEEK, HE FOUND THEM TO BE TOUGH, INFLEXIBLE. AFTER SIX HOURS OF UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 034239

TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT HE CONCLUDED THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE JUST AS INFLEXIBLE. THE POSITIONS OF BOTH SIDES AT THE MOMENT SEEM TO BE IRRECONCILABLE BUT KISSINGER HOPES THAT EGYPT AND ISRAEL WILL BOTH CONSIDER MAKING

MAJOR CONCESSIONS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS SO THAT WHEN HE

RETURNS HERE ON OR ABOUT MARCH 10TH HE WILL BE ABLE TO BRIDGE THE GAP AND PRODUCE AN AGREEMENT. BUT TONIGHT THE OPTIMISM OF THE LAST FEW DAYS EXISTS ONLY IN HIS PUBLIC RHETORIC. HIS PRIVATE RESERVATIONS AND DOUBTS APPEAR TO HAVE DEEPEMED.

3. NBC-TV, JOHN CHANCELLOR/VALERIANI:

CHANCELLOR: NEITHER HEAT NOR COLD NOR HOSTILE BORDERS KEPT THE SECRETARY OF STATE FROM CARRYING OUT HIS APPOINTED ROUNDS TODAY. HE CARRIED THE DIPLOMATIC MAIL FROM CAIRO TO DAMASCUS AND ENDED THE DAY IN JERUSALEM. RICHARD VALERIANI HAS BEEN IN HENRY KISSINGER'S PARTY AND HERE, FROM ISRAEL, IS RICHARD VALERIANI:

VALERIANI: PRESIDENT SADAT AND KISSINGER GREETED EACH OTHER WITH THEIR CUSTOMARY EMBRACE, THEN THEY CONFERRED FOR SEVERAL HOURS. SADAT REPORTEDLY ACCEPTED THE IDEA THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS TO ISRAEL IN WRITING IN ORDER TO GET A FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED SINAI. AFTERWARD, KISSINGER SAID THE TALKS HAD BEEN VERY CONSTRUCTIVE. SADAT SAID HE WAS SATISFIED, VERY HAPPY AND OPTIMISTIC. BUT NEITHER MAN PROVIDED ANY DETAILS.

THIS MORNING, KISSINGER AND FM FAHMI SIGNED AN \$80 MILLION LOW-INTEREST LOAN TO EGYPT FOR AMERICAN IMPORTS. APART FROM FOOD, THIS IS THE FIRST AMERICAN AID AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT IN MORE THAN 10 YEARS.

BEFORE RETURNING TO ISRAEL, KISSINGER DETOURED TO DAMASCUS TO BRING THE SYRIANS UP TO DATE ON HIS TALKS IN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM AND TO GET A LINE ON SYRIA'S THINKING ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS. AFTER AN HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ASSAD, KISSINGER HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT SYRIA, LIKE EGYPT, MIGHT ALSO BE INTERESTED IN ANOTHER UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 034239

INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL.

KISSINGER THEN CAME BACK TO ISRAEL, TO REPORT ON HIS TALKS IN CAIRO. AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY IMMEDIATE ISRAELI REACTION TO EGYPT'S VIEW. INSTEAD, KISSINGER TOLD ISRAELIS AT A WORKING DINNER THAT HE PLANNED TO LET BOTH SIDES REFLECT ON THE OTHERS' VIEWS FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS WHILE HE FORMULATES AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL. HE WILL RETURN TO THE AREA IN EARLY MARCH TO START ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

KISSINGER'S RETURN TO ISRAEL COMPLETED THE MOST

IMPORTANT PHASE OF HIS EXPLORATORY MISSION. NEWSMEN ABORAD HIS PLANE WERE TOLD THAT AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS, KISSINGER FEELS THAT AGREEMENT IS CONCEIVABLE. BUT THE ODDS ARE 50-50 AT BEST.

3. CBS TV (KALB): A SIX-HOUR COURTESY CALL ON SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD. KISSINGER IS NOT EAGER TO INVOLVE SYRIA IN HIS CURRENT EFFORT BUT HE WANTED TO EASE ASSAD'S WORRY THAT SYRIA MIGHT FEEL IGNORED. HIS THIRD COUNTRY IN LESS THAN 10 HOURS WAS ISRAEL. A RED-CARPET RECEPTION, WHICH ENCOURAGED KISSINGER TO TALK IN TERMS OF JOINT STEPS TOWARDS PEACE.

HAK: "WELL, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING MY COLLEAGUES IN THE ISRAELI CABINET TO REPORT TO THEM ABOUT MY VISIT TO CAIRO AND DAMASCUS AND TO PLAN WITH THEM JOINT STEPS TO TAKE TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THANK YOU."

KALB: A WORKING DINNER TONIGHT, HOSTED BY PM RABIN, THE SETTING FOR KISSINGER'S REPORT ON HIS TALKS WITH SADAT. THE ISRAELIS SEEM AS INFLEXIBLE AS THE EGYPTIANS, AND ALTHOUGH KISSINGER THINKS THE DEAL IS STILL CONCEIVABLE, HE NOW REALIZES BOTH SIDES ARE GOING TO HAVE TO CONSIDER MAJOR CONCESSIONS, BEFORE HIS RETURN TO THE MIDDLE EAST NEXT MONTH, IN ORDER TO GET A DEAL. KISSINGER'S RHETORIC CONTINUES TO BE UP-BEAT, UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 034239

BUT AFTER TALKING WITH SADAT HE'S BEGINNING TO CONVEY THE IMPRESSION THAT IT'S GOING TO BE VERY TOUGH TO GET ANOTHER SINAI AGREEMENT. ONE OFFICIAL PUT THE ODDS AT 50-50 AT BEST.

4-JOHN SHEEHAN, CBS RADIO FROM CAIRO: AFTER KISSINGER LEFT CAIRO, EGYPTIAN SOURCES CLOSE TO HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT SUMMED UP HIS VISIT, SAYING NOTHING BIG BUT NOTHING BAD. THE "NOTHING BIG" MEANS THAT ISRAEL IS APPARENTLY NOT WILLING TO WITHDRAW RIGHT AWAY FROM THE STRATEGIC SINAI PASSES AND THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS. BUT GIVING UP THOSE PARTS OF THE OCCUPIED SINAI REMAINS THE NEXT FUTURE STEP. ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE THERE IS NO VISIBLE WILLINGNESS TO DECLARE A FORMAL ENDING OF THE STATE OF WAR. ONE POSSIBLE COMPROMISE BEING DISCUSSED HERE IN THE EGYPTIAN CAPITAL WOULD BE AN AGREED SUSPENSION OF THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY FOR A LIMITED TIME, PERHAPS 18 MONTHS. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT ISRAEL MIGHT AGREE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PASSES DURING THAT SAME 18 MONTHS AND RETURN TO THE PEACE TALKS IN GENEVA. THE STRATEGIC PASSES WOULD PROBABLY BE TURNED OVER TO THE UN FORCES. FOR THE EGYPTIANS THE MOST POSITIVE SIGN AT THIS MOMENT IS THAT

SECRETARY KISSINGER REITERATED HIS PROMISE TO RETURN ON MARCH 9TH OR 10TH FOR SOME REAL NEGOTIATING.

PRESS -- LATIMES' RESTON FROM CAIRO LED WITH HAK AND SADAT CONFERRING ALONE FOR TWO HOURS WEDNESDAY IN TALKS "THAT APPEARED TO POINT TO A NEW SECOND-STAGE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT". EXCERPTS FOLLOW. QUOTE...WHILE KISSINGER HAS DESCRIBED HIS LATEST PEACE MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST AS ONLY EXPLORATORY, BOTH HE AND HIS EGYPTIAN HOST APPEARED OPTIMISTIC AND MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT THE NEXT STEP...

"I THINK WE HAVE MADE PROGRESS IN CLARIFYING THE ISSUES AND HAVE INDICATED THE DIRECTION IN WHICH A SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND," KISSINGER SAID AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS FIRST DAY OF TALKS WITH SADAT. "I AM HOPEFUL THAT FURTHER PROGRESS CAN BE MADE. IN FACT, I AM CONFIDENT THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WILL BE MADE"...

ON THE FLIGHT FROM ISRAEL TO EGYPT A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL ABOARD THE KISSINGER PLANE SAID ISRAEL MUST GET UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 034239

A "TANGIBLE QUID PRO QUO" AS PART OF ANY NEW AGREEMENT... HE SAID EVERYBODY IS ASKING ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FORCES FROM STRATEGIC AREAS IN THE SINAI FOR SOME VAGUE INTANGIBLE THAT MAY NOT HOLD IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. FOR ANY NEW AGREEMENT TO BE SUCCESSFUL, HE SAID, THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING IN WRITING THAT ALSO COMMITS EGYPT TO A MOVE TOWARD GENERAL PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THIS AMERICAN OFFICIAL ALSO MADE THESE MAJOR POINTS ABOUT THE KISSINGER NEGOTIATIONS IN ISRAEL:

-- IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS WILL WIND UP WITH SOMETHING LESS THAN WIDE-SCALE ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS

FROM THE STRATEGIC SINAI PASSES AND HEIGHTS IN EXCHANGE FOR REAL POLITICAL CONCESSIONS FROM EGYPT.

-- THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT FACES A TERRIBLE DILEMMA BECAUSE IT MUST JUSTIFY EACH NEW STEP IN THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS TO ITS OWN PUBLIC AND TO A PARLIAMENT THAT IS DEEPLY DIVIDED. BUT THERE IS AN EVOLUTION IN ISRAELI THINKING, AT LEAST PUBLICLY...

-- IN THE EVENT THAT ISRAEL EVENTUALLY RETURNS TO EGYPTIAN CONTROL THE OIL FIELDS AT ABU RADEIS -- NOW SUPPORTING 40 TO 50 OF ISRAELI PETROLEUM -- OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE. END QUOTE

AFTERNOON WIRES:

AP'S SCHWEID LED WITH HAK WINDING UP TALKS WITH SADAT,

HAVING "FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE" FIVE-HOUR SESSION WITH HASSAD, AND RETURNING ISRAEL. EXCERPTS FOLLOW. QUOTE. BEFORE LEAVING DAMASCUS, KISSINGER SAID HE AND ASSAD DISCUSSED DETAILS OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SYRIA'S "INDISPENSABLE" ROLE IN A FINAL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. A SYRIAN SPOKESMAN SAID BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND THE UNITED STATES ALSO FIGURED HIGH ON THE AGENDA, BUT GAVE NO DETAILS.

KISSINGER'S CURRENT MISSION IS EXPLORATORY AND HE PLANS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 034239

TO RETURN TO THE MIDDLE EAST AROUND MARCH 10. A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THAT AT THAT TIME KISSINGER PLANS TO GO FIRST TO CAIRO TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF A SIZABLE ISRAELI PULLBACK IN EXCHANGE FOR MOVES BY EGYPT TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF THE JEWISH STATE.

U.S. OFFICIALS SAID AN AGREEMENT WOULD INVOLVE A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL AND HINTED THAT ONE ELEMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT WOULD INVOLVE REPLACING THE OIL ISRAEL WOULD LOSE BY GIVING UP THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS...

BUT RADIO ISRAEL QUOTED INFORMED SOURCES AS SAYING THAT EVEN IF AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH EGYPT INVOLVING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN SINAI, ISRAEL WOULD NOT IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT IMMEDIATELY IF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE ALSO WAS RECONVENED, AS THE KREMLIN AND SOME ARAB STATES HAVE DEMANDED.

THE RADIO SAID ISRAEL WOULD WAIT UNTIL EGYPT'S POSITION AT GENEVA BECAME CLEAR...THE REPORT SAID THE UNITED STATES WAS SUPPORTING THE ISRAELI POSITION ON THIS POINT.

ALTHOUGH NO SOURCE FOR THE REPORT WAS GIVEN, IT WAS SEEN AS A LEAK BY ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. END QUOTE.

UPI FROM JERUSALEM LEAD HAD HAK BRINGING EGYPT'S TERMS FOR A DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BACK TO ISRAEL AND SAYING HIS MISSION IS "STILL IN BUSINESS", DESPITE A PUBLIC DEADLOCK. EXCERPTS FOLLOW. QUOTE: A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL ESTIMATED THE CHANCES AT 50/50 "AT PEST" FOR EVENTUAL SUCCESS OF KISSINGER'S MISSION TO BRING ABOUT A NEW ISRAELI PULLBACK EAST OF THE SUEZ CANAL...

THE SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID KISSINGER WOULD NOT PRESS THE ISRAELIS FOR ANY ANSWER NOW BUT WOULD LEAVE THEM, AND THE EGYPTIANS, TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE CONCESSIONS UNTIL HE RETURNS IN EARLY MARCH...

ISRAEL'S NATIONAL RADIO QUOTED POLITICAL SOURCES AS SAYING
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 034239

THAT EVEN IN THE CASE OF AN AGREEMENT ISRAEL WOULD NOT
MAKE ANY FURTHER WITHDRAWALS IN SINAI UNTIL AFTER A
RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE SO AS TO TEST
EGYPTIAN INTENTIONS.

THE SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL SAID ASSAD WOULD "PROBABLY
BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING ANOTHER INTERIM STEP TOWARD
PEACE, TOO, BEFORE A FINAL SETTLEMENT BUT IT WAS NOT AN
IMMEDIATE QUESTION AND IT WAS UNSURE WHETHER THIS WOULD
BE BEFORE OR AT A RECONVENED GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE,
IF AT ALL."

THE OFFICIAL SAID KISSINGER DID NOT START ANY NEW
NEGOTIATIONS WITH ASSAD. END QUOTE

UPI IN SEPARATE PIECE SAID NANCY KISSINGER "DECIDED
THURSDAY NOT TO GO WITH HER HUSBAND" TO DAMASCUS, WENT
TOURING IN CAIRO, AND WILL REJOIN HIM FRIDAY IN AQABA.

INGERSOLL

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE034239
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/PRS JTRATNER:MDK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750053-0828
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750287/baaaagqz.tel
Line Count: 298
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: JERUSALEM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006